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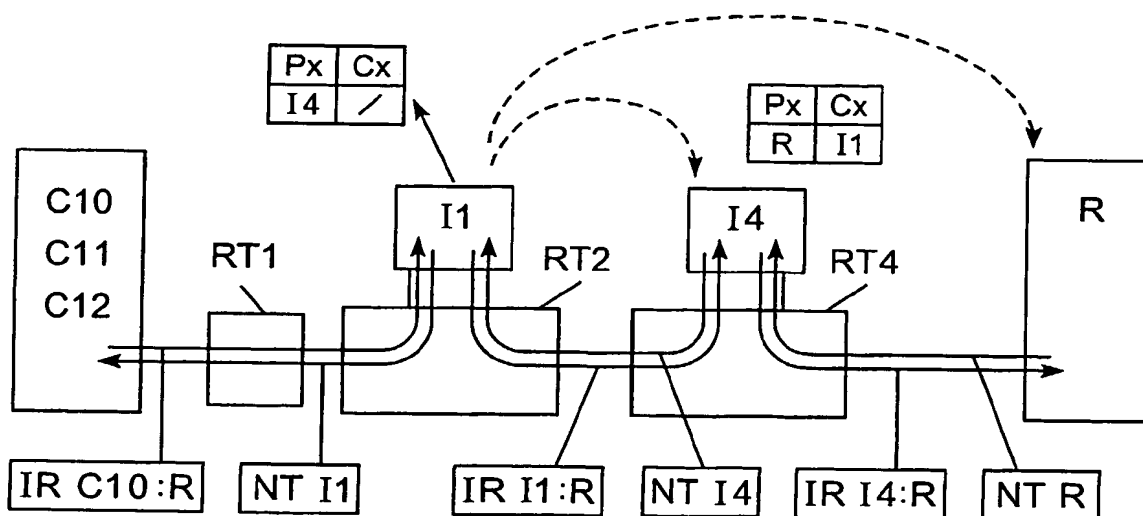
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(54) Title: INDEX SERVER SUPPORT TO FILE SHARING APPLICATIONS



(57) Abstract: An index server support for file sharing applications is disclosed. A way of retrieving an index server includes sending a request for investigating a hierarchical structure of index servers in a network to a known index server, intercepting the investigation request by the first index server that becomes aware of the investigation request, notifying an originator of the investigation request of the intercepting index server identity, dropping the intercepted request is dropped by the intercepting index server. The originator of the investigation request then registers the intercepting index server as addressee for future file querying requests.

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC 7 G06F17/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2002/133621 A1 (LEIBOWITZ NATHANIEL ET AL) 19 September 2002 (2002-09-19) abstract paragraph '0006! - paragraph '0033! paragraph '0038! - paragraph '0055! -----	1-18
A	WO 01/75652 A (CT SPAN COMM CORP) 11 October 2001 (2001-10-11) abstract page 3, line 15 - page 4, line 31 -----	1-18
A	US 2002/062336 A1 (BJORNER NIKOLAJ S ET AL) 23 May 2002 (2002-05-23) abstract paragraph '0029! - paragraph '0043! paragraph '0047! ----- -/--	1-18

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	WO 02/15035 A (NAPSTER INC) 21 February 2002 (2002-02-21) abstract page 5, line 5 - page 7, line 6 -----	1-18

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